

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

April 23, 2002
302 N. 1st Avenue, Suite 300
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Skip Rimsza, Phoenix, Chairman
Mayor John Keegan, Peoria
Mayor Jay Tibshraeny, Chandler

Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa
Mayor Bill Arnold, Goodyear

★ Not present

1. Call to Order

The Executive Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Skip Rimsza at 9:40 a.m.

2. Approval of the March 20, 2002 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Mayor John Keegan moved to approve the March 20, 2002 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Mayor William Arnold seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion of Management Committee Recommendations on Governance

James Bourey asked Mayor Hawker to review his memorandum to the Regional Council that includes recommendations for composition of the Transportation Policy Committee. Mayor Hawker stated that at the Regional Council Transportation Subcommittee meeting on April 17, 2002, the subcommittee unanimously recommended composition for the Transportation Policy Committee. This composition includes the central city; the seven largest cities/towns; three additional cities/towns to achieve geographic balance; two at-large cities/towns; one Maricopa County Board of Supervisor member; one Native American Indian Community member; one State Transportation Board member; the Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee Chair; the ranking Maricopa member-Senate Transportation Committee; the ranking Maricopa member-House Transportation Committee; five business community representatives, and one freight representative. He noted that a letter representing Sun City was received requesting two Maricopa County Board of Supervisors serve on this committee. Chairman Rimsza stated that Sun City is unincorporated.

Mayor Hawker explained that there was some discussion on the geographic balance and the determination of where the West Valley starts. He noted that the seven largest cities/towns are not set, and that they will change over time as the population of each jurisdiction changes. Mayor Hawker stated that this is as close as the committees have come to a consensus. Mayor Arnold stated that the West Valley is pleased with the discussion that took place and the recommendations. Mayor Keegan asked how the five business representatives will work. He suggested that the newspapers should not serve on this committee. Mayor Keegan stated that even though he has some questions regarding the five business representatives, he is in support of this concept.

Chairman Rimsza asked for clarification on whether the cities/towns that are part of the seven largest cities/towns will participate in the selection of the other five cities/towns. He suggested that the remaining cities/towns pick their own representation and that the larger seven should not be involved. Mr. Smith stated

that the intergovernmental representatives noted that the West Valley Mayors and Managers would like to discuss this issue at their next meeting and make a recommendation to the Regional Council for approval. Mayor Keegan noted that the West Valley Mayor and Managers meeting is an informal gathering, and technically a recommendation to the Regional Council would not be appropriate. Chairman Rimsza suggested that the West Valley Mayors and Managers discuss which of three cities/towns they would suggest and bring it up for discussion at the Regional Council meeting. He noted that the Chairman needs to know who to call on for a vote.

Mr. Bourey noted that there are two more pieces to this agenda item: expanding the Executive Committee from five to seven members and the functions of the Regional Council, Executive Committee and Transportation Policy committees. He noted that there were a few questions on the responsibilities. Mr. Bourey stated that the questions were under Regional Council responsibilities, the last two bullets. The word "Ratification" was suggest that it be changed to "Approval". In addition, the last two bullets under the Executive Committee responsibilities - *Those Requiring Approval by the Regional Council*, the word "Approval" be changed to "Ratify." Chairman Rimsza stated that he believes it makes sense the way it is worded. The Executive Committee agreed not to change the wording. Mayor Hawker asked about the Amendments to the Annual Budget and Work Program. Mr. Bourey noted that the Executive Committee would not make major amendments to the budget without consulting the Regional Council. Chairman Rimsza stated that we need to have faith in the body we elect.

Chairman Rimsza stated that the big question is will this help MAG achieve the half-cent sales tax. The intergovernmental representatives and members of the committee then discussed the relative merits of the changes. Chairman Rimsza noted that if Phoenix was unsatisfied with the proposed structure, they would go ahead for the half-cent sales tax alone. Mayor Hawker asked if Phoenix would hang in there with this structure. Chairman Rimsza stated that if ratified and enabling legislation is established, then Phoenix would stay. He noted that Phoenix's dissatisfaction is not with the MAG body. Mayor Tibshraeny asked when this would be on the ballot. Chairman Rimsza stated that it would be on the ballot by 2004 and described three possibilities for how it could be presented.

Chairman Rimsza asked MAG staff to simplify the recommendation so that it is very clear. He then asked the Executive Committee to express their position on the suggested change on the Transportation Policy Committee.

Mayor Keegan stated that he does support this motion but has some concerns about not addressing weighted voting, which is a significant issue among the members. The other concern is that he believes that this level of transportation planning should be done by a County Charter Government. Mayor Arnold stated that he supports the Executive Committee motion. Mayor Hawker stated that he preferred the small, medium, and large concept rather than the East/West Valley. He feels that it builds an inherent conflict. Mayor Tibshraeny stated that he also supports the motion but feels that it is an internal thing. He stated that it probably will not have an effect outside the organization. Mayor Tibshraeny stated that hopefully this will make internal operations work better. Chairman Rimsza noted that he believes that this is a good step, and that MAG needs to win enabling legislation and move forward. He suggested that focus be on establishing unanimity at the Board level. He stated that he has his own trepidations, but the committee needs to come together. Chairman Rimsza noted that there are 8,000 people moving into Maricopa County each month. This amount of growth will continue to have an impact on the regions transportation system.

Following these discussions, Mayor Keegan moved that the recommendation for the composition of the Transportation Policy Committee be forwarded to the Regional Council. Mayor Hawker seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Funding for Compiling Information of Developments of Regional Significance

Mr. Bourey stated that at the March Executive Committee meeting, he received a consensus that the committee preferred much less specific language. He explained that three staff members are being requested; a Senior Planner, a Planner 1, and Socioeconomic Modeling Planner. Mr. Bourey explained that the costs for these positions has been decreased from the previously stated \$377,053 to \$269,500 by staggering the start times for the positions in the fiscal year. He noted that MAG would like to include these positions in the budget. The Executive Committee's recommendations will go to the Management Committee, back to the Executive Committee, and then to Regional Council for approval. Mayor Tibshraeny asked if federal funds are available. Mr. Bourey stated that cities requested that MAG find another way to fund this other than assessments. He noted that MAG would use federal funds. Mayo Hawker stated that he supports this recommendation and believes that doing land use and transportation together is a smart choice. He noted that Mesa will be working with MAG on issues regarding land use on new development within the city of Mesa. Mr. Bourey stated that the business community has supported this.

Mayor Hawker moved to recommend including \$269,500 in the FY 2003 Unified Planning Work Program to compile information on developments of regional significance. Mayor Arnold seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Chairman

Secretary